

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 SSO-00

INRE-00 DRC-01 /046 W

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O R 281125Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5899

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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BEIRUT FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, IR

SUBJ: CIVAIR: CLEARANCE FOR FLYING TIGER CHARTER FLIGHT

REF: STATE 61437 (NOTAL)

1. DGCA ADVISED EMBOFF ON MARCH 28 THAT PERMISSION DENIED FOR REFTTEL FLYING TIGER FLIGHT. IRAN AIR OBJECTED THAT IT IN POSITION TO CARRY THIS CARGO. PLS ADVISE FLYING TIGER.

2. FYI: EMBOFF HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH DGCA ON THIS CLEARANCE SINCE MARCH 25, DAY EMBASSY RECEIVED FLYING TIGER TELEGRAM REQUESTING PERMISSION. MATTER COMPLICATED BY ABSENCE MOST DGCA OFFICIALS IN CONNECTION WITH NOW RUZ HOLIDAYS. CONVERSATIONS WITH LOWER LEVEL DGCA OFFICIALS AND WITH DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR ABOLMAALI MADE CLEAR THAT IRAN AIR, AS USUAL, WAS PROBLEM. FINALLY ON AFTERNOON MARCH 28 ABOLMAALI TOLD EMBOFF THAT PERMISSION DENIED ON GROUNDS THAT IRAN AIR ABLE TO HANDLE; HE ALSO STATED THAT IRAN AIR IS NOW INSISTING THAT CARGO CONSIGNED TO IRANIAN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES SHOULD BE CARRIED BY OR "THROUGH" IRAN AIR. AS WE HAVE DONE IN THE PAST EMBOFF OBJECTED TO THIS TREATMENT OF US AIRLINES AND REMINDED ABOLMAALI OF CAB'S PAST GENEROSITY IN GRANTING IRAN AIR

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CHARTER APPROVAL. ABOLMAALI SAID HE REGRETTED DECISION BUT IF HE

HAD HAD MORE TIME, HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GET IRAN AIR TO BACK DOWN (WE KNOW HE AND OTHERS IN DGCA HAVE SUCCEEDED IN THE PAST IN THIS). ABOLMAALI SAID HE HAD RECEIVED NO INSTRUCTIONS FROM ADMINISTRATOR ARBABI ON THIS MATTER.

3. EMBOFF OBJECTED TO FACT THAT IRAN AIR REP IN US HAD CONTACTED FLYING TIGER WITH INFO ON TURNDOWN. ABOLMAALI AGREED THIS WAS NOT WAY TO HANDLE MATTER AND SAID HE WOULD WRITE "STRONG" LETTER TO IRAN AIR ON THAT POINT (PRIVATELY WE DOUBT HE WILL).

4. SUGGEST CIRCUMSTANCES TURNDOWN BE BROUGHT TO ARBABI'S ATTENTION AND ALSO TO CAB'S. WE HAVE SUBMITTED REQUEST FOR SEPARATE FLYING TIGER FLIGHT APRIL 6. WILL ADVISE.
HELMS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
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30 JUN 2005

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